



News Release

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Patrick Appointed as Bureau of Emergency Medical Services Director

Patrick brings over 28 years of experience to the post

(Salt Lake City, UT) – David N. Sundwall, MD, Executive Director for the Utah Department of Health (UDOH), announced today that Paul R. Patrick has been appointed as the new director of the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS). Patrick replaces Jan Buttrey who retired in December 2005.

“Paul is the right person to step into this job,” Dr. Sundwall said. “He has extensive experience dealing with EMS issues and has provided strong leadership to a staff that has accomplished great work. I’m pleased to have Paul join our management team at the UDOH.”

As director of the Bureau of EMS, Patrick will ensure the quality of emergency medical systems in Utah. Specifically this includes, regulation and licensing of EMS agencies, certification of EMS personnel, establishing and enforcing ambulance cost rates, collecting and analyzing emergency care data and directing department preparedness and planning efforts for public health emergencies. “I’m looking forward to building on our successes and continuing to move the bureau forward in a positive direction,” Patrick said.

Patrick completed his Design Engineering Degree in 1976 from Brigham Young University. Following graduation, Paul worked in the construction industry for 14 years.

In 1978, Patrick certified as an Emergency Medical Technician and worked for 25 years as a volunteer with the Springville Ambulance Service. From 1988 to 1993, he served as an affiliate faculty member for the Utah Chapter of the American Heart Association, serving as chairman of the Chapter for two years.

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In 1988, Patrick began working for the State of Utah's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services as a regional consultant. In 2000, he became a program manager for the Bureau, supervising the Technical Assistance and Quality Assurance Program. He became deputy Bureau director in September 2004 and interim Bureau director in December 2005.

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The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death, assuring access to affordable, quality health care, and promoting healthy lifestyles.